

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

1343

53-51

CONFIDENTIAL

Control: 17921

Rec'd: OCTOBER 24, 1962

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

7:45 PM

REVIEWED BY

DATE 3/30/8

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FROM: PARIS

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1940, OCTOBER 24, 9 PM

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WITH EXCEPTION COMMUNISTS AND THEIR ALLIES, PREDOMINANT ATTITUDE IN FRANCE ON US ACTION CUBA APPEARS BE ONE SOLIDARITY, UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHY.

THIS ATTITUDE GENERALLY REFLECTED ALL LEVELS FONMINISTRY. CURRIEN, CHIEF WESTERN EUROPEAN OFFICE, STATED MEETING FONMINS OF SIX IN BRUSSELS OCTOBER 23 EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING US POSITION AND RECOGNITION US COULD TAKE NO OTHER ACTION THAN IT HAD TAKEN. STATED MINISTERS IMPRESSED BY SCHROEDER ARGUMENT THAT RUSSIAN EFFORTS TO LINK BERLIN AND CUBA MUST BE VIGOROUSLY COMBATED. IN PERSONAL ASIDE CURRIEN ADDED FRENCH HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE BOARDING, SEARCHING FOREIGN SHIPS (INCLUDING SOVIETS) DURING ALGERIAN WAR AND UNDERSTAND US POSITION VERY WELL THIS MATTER.

COMMENTED BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA WHICH MIGHT FOLLOW SUPPORT US ACTION WOULD NOT TROUBLE FRENCH.

NEVERTHELESS, CERTAIN APPREHENSION EXPRESSED SOME LEVELS US MAY BE LED INTO COMPREHENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS EAST-WEST ISSUES UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH ARE DISADVANTAGEOUS TO WEST.

INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT NEWS MEDIA HAVE ADVERTED TO REPORTED DE GAULLE INVITATION TO US AND THAT POSSIBILITY SOME TYPE SUMMIT CONFERENCE MIGHT CAUSE HIM TO ADVANCE DATE SUCH VISIT.

IN COURSE OF RECEPTION IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT OF FINLAND AT QUAI D'ORSAY TODAY, KEKKONEN CONSPICUOUSLY SUMMONED CHARGE AND ENGAGED HIM IN PROTRACTED CONVERSATION. PRESIDENT'S MOTIVE OBVIOUSLY TO UNDERLINE SYMPATHETIC TO US. EXCELLENT

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-2- 1940, OCTOBER 24, 9 PM, FROM PARIS

ARTICLE BY ARON IN FIGARO OCTOBER 24 STATES RUSSIANS HAD UPSET DELICATE EQUILIBRIUM BY INSTALLING MISSILE BASES CUBA AND HAD MISCALCULATED IN ASSUMING US WOULD TOLERATE THIS. IN AFTERNOON LE MONDE FONTAINE ARTICLE APPEARS MORE FAVORABLE TO US THAN DID EDITORIAL IN PRECEDING ISSUE. FONTAINE STRESSES US POSITION THAT PRESENCE ATLANTIC BASES IN TURKEY MERELY CONSOLIDATION OF STATUS QUO RESULTING FROM YALTA CONFERENCE, WHEREAS SOVIET ACTION CUBA TENDS TO CALL THIS STATUS QUO INTO QUESTION. STATES, HOWEVER, US POSITION WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER HAD IT CONSULTED UN BEFORE TAKING UNILATERAL ACTION. EXTENSIVE EMBASSY BRIEFINGS FRENCH NEWSPAPERMEN BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN PRODUCING MORE FAVORABLE ATTITUDE IN PRESS.

EMBASSY CONTINUES RECEIVE LARGE QUANTITY TELEGRAM, LETTERS FROM COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS PROTESTING US ACTION. SOME DEMONSTRATIONS PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 24 BY FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY, APPARENTLY CANCELLED BECAUSE OF METRO STRIKE WHICH HAS CAUSED TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES. DEMONSTRATIONS MAY BE HELD THIS EVENING OR MORNING 25TH.

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 17921

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Rec'd: OCTOBER 24 1962
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR 7:45 PM

Info

FROM: PARIS

REVIEWED by John DATE 3/30/88

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TO: Secretary of State

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